

# AUSTRALASIAN FOOTBALL COUNCIL.

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## MINUTES OF MEETINGS,

August and December, 1908.

McCARRON, BIRD & CO., 479 Collins Street. Melbourne.

1909.





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# Australasian Football Council.

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Minutes of meeting at the Victorian Football League Rooms, The Block, Collins Street, Melbourne, which opened on Monday, 24th August, 1908, and closed on Monday, 31st August, 1908.

The following Delegates were present:—

New South Wales Football League.—Messrs. A. E. Nash and E. W. Butler.

New Zealand Football League.—Messrs. E. L. McKeon and A. H. Tucker.

Queensland Football League.—Messrs. M. Becker and R. W. Long.

South Australian Football League.—Messrs. W. H. Harvey and R. F. C. Sullivan.

Tasmanian Football League.—Messrs. W. H. Gill and K. E. Burn.

Victorian Football League.—Messrs. C. M. Hickey and J. Worrall.

West Australian Football League.—Mr. J. Webb.

Goldfields Football League.—Mr. T. J. Brett.

The President took the chair.

The Secretary read notice convening meeting.

The minutes of meeting of Council held at Melbourne in November, 1906 (copies of which had been printed and circulated), were taken as read and confirmed.

## AUDITORS.

In accordance with resolution made at previous meeting that two Auditors, one Delegate from South Australia and one from West Australia, should act, Messrs. W. H. Harvey and T. J. Brett were appointed.

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## REPORT FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The report of the Finance Committee which met at Melbourne in November, 1907, copies of which had been circulated among the controlling bodies, was submitted.

The report having been received, the same was adopted on the motion of Mr. Nash, seconded by Mr. Webb.

Mr. McKeon drew attention to the fact that although the New Zealand team had only been allowed second-class boat fares they had travelled first-class.

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## RECEPTION OF REPORTS.

### DESIGNATION OF CONTROLLING BODIES.

That each controlling body is now designated League as recommended at last Council meeting.

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## REPRESENTATION—TASMANIA.

That as recommended the Tasmanian Football League appointed one of the Delegates to Council from the North Tasmanian Football Association.

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## LIFE MEMBERS' BADGE.

That the President, Vice-President, and Treasurer chose design for life members' badge.

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## PRESENTATION—LIFE MEMBER'S BADGE.

Mr. H. C. A. HARRISON.

That a badge of Honorary Life Membership was presented by the President on behalf of the Council to Mr. H. C. A. Harrison at meeting of Victorian Football League.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

The Hon. Treasurer's Statement of Receipts and Disbursements duly certified by Messrs. Harvey and Brett was received and adopted.

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## ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS.

PRESIDENT.—Mr. C. M. Hickey was unanimously re-elected on the motion of Mr. Nash, seconded by Mr. McKeon.

VICE-PRESIDENT.—Mr. A. E. Nash was unanimously re-elected on the motion of Mr. Worrall, seconded by Mr. Sullivan.

TREASURER.—Mr. W. H. Gill was re-elected unanimously on the motion of Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mr. Brett.

TWO AUDITORS.—Messrs. W. H. Harvey and T. J. Brett were re-elected unanimously on the motion of Mr. Webb, seconded by Mr. McKeon.

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## FINANCE COMMITTEE

The President, Treasurer, and Mr. Sullivan were re-appointed as the Finance Committee.

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## AMERICAN FLEET WELCOME.

MATCH 1ST SEPTEMBER, 1908.

The President reported that he had approved of arrangements for a match to be played between interstate teams on Tuesday, 1st September, 1908, in order to assist the State Government in entertaining the visiting American Fleet.

It was resolved that action be confirmed.

In accordance with request of Secretary Victorian State Cabinet Committee it was agreed to invite Members of Parliament to witness the match, as also the seamen of the British ships in port.



## CORRESPONDENCE READ.

Letter from Victorian State Schools' Athletic Association applying for permission to play a match, Victorian v. Tasmanian Schoolboys, on Thursday, 27th August, prior to New South Wales-Queensland match. It was resolved that permission be granted.

Letter from Goulbourn Valley District Football Association asking match to be arranged at Tatura against a visiting Carnival team. It was agreed that a copy of letter be sent to managers of each controlling body.

Letter from Secretary Maryborough Brass Band asking permission to play at Melbourne Cricket Ground on Tuesday, 1st September. On the motion of Mr. Worrall, seconded by Mr. Hickey, it was resolved that permission be granted.

## COLOURS.

Applications having been received for alterations of colours it was agreed that the uniform and colours be:—

| STATE.          | JERSEY.   | KNICKERS. | HOSE.                                    | COLOURS.                        |
|-----------------|---|-----------|--|---------------------------------|
| New S. Wales    | Royal Blue ; Red Waratah on left breast   | White     | Royal Blue                               | Royal Blue with Red Waratah     |
| New Zealand     | All Black ; Silver Fern Leaf on breast  | Black     | Black                                    | Black, Silver Fern Leaf         |
| Queensland ..   | Maroon ; White Q on breast  | White     | Maroon                                   | Maroon                          |
| South Australia | Brown ; Turquoise Blue facings  | White     | Brown and Turq. Blue                     | Brown and Turq. Blue            |
| Tasmania ..     | M'rtle Green ; Rose & Primr. Braces, Primrose Map of Tasmania ; Rose Football on breast | White     | M'rtle Green, Hoops of Rose and Primrose | M'rtle Green, Rose and Primrose |
| Victoria ..     | Dark Blue ; White V on breast   | White     | Dark Blue                                | Dark Blue                       |
| West Australia  | Green ; Gold Swan on breast   | White     | Black                                    | Green and Gold                  |



## REPRESENTATION—TASMANIA.

Mr. Gill explained that in accordance with the recommendation made to the Tasmanian Football League at last meeting of Council it had invited the North Tasmanian Football Association to nominate a Delegate to the Council. Mr. Ritchie had been nominated and that gentleman had been appointed by the Tasmanian Football League. Subsequently, Mr. Ritchie finding he could not make the journey, the Association had submitted Mr. Littler's name, which his League did not approve, in consequence of Mr. Littler being one of the players on the State team then taking part in the Jubilee Carnival. The Tasmanian League had then appointed Mr. K. E. Burn.

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## QUALIFICATION OF DELEGATES.

Consequent upon the action of the Tasmanian Football League a long discussion took place, and it was moved by Mr. Brett and seconded by Mr. Harvey "That players be not eligible for appointment as Delegates to Council."

The motion was lost—6 for, 7 against.

It was further moved "That it be a recommendation to controlling bodies that players be not Delegates to Council."

Motion lost—6 for, 8 against.

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## AMENDMENT OF RULES, &c.

Notices of intention to move alterations and amendments of the following were read:—

By Tasmanian Football League.—Alteration of Permit Regulation 1.

By Victorian Football League.—Alteration of Law 14 of the game.

By South Australian Football League.—Amendments of Laws of Game—(1) Kicking in the ruck be disallowed; (2) Throwing the ball be allowed.

As the requisite notice had not been given the controlling bodies in the case of the amendments made by the Tasmanian and Victorian Football Leagues, and the two months' notice by the South Australian Football League

in the case of its suggested amendments, such notices were declared out of order by the Chairman.

It was agreed that any proposed amendment or alteration be discussed, and that under the power of Clause 6 of the Constitution a meeting of the Council be called at Melbourne in the month of December, 1908, on a date to be fixed by President, to pass such additions and alterations as should be now agreed to.

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### CONSTITUTION.

It was agreed to unanimously that Clause 7 of the Constitution be amended by deleting the words "balance sheet" in the seventh line and substituting the words "financial statement duly audited."

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### LAWS OF THE GAME.

Law 13.—Mr. Sullivan moved, Mr. Becker seconded—"That kicking in the ruck be allowed" (Mr. Sullivan stated that two or three players together in the field at one time were a ruck). Lost—3 for, 11 against.

Law 12.—Mr. Harvey moved, Mr. Webb seconded—"That throwing the ball be allowed." Lost—4 for, 10 against.

Law 14.—Mr. Worrall moved, Mr. Webb seconded—"That any controlling body may appoint two field umpires." Lost—7 for, 6 against (three-fourths majority required, see Clause 9 of Constitution).

Law 14.—Moved by Mr. Worrall, seconded by Mr. Harvey—"To amend Law 14 of the game so as to give boundary umpires similar powers to those possessed by the field umpire." Carried unanimously.

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### PERMIT REGULATIONS.

Regulation.—Moved by Mr. Gill, seconded by Mr. Tucker—"That Regulation 1 be amended by inserting between the words "weeks" and "immediately" on the fourth line of said regulation, the words "in the case of Tasmania eight weeks." Carried.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

### PROPAGANDA FUND.

It was agreed on the motion of Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mr. Gill—"That each controlling body shall supply to the Council a statement showing how the amount of propaganda funds, which may have been received, has been distributed."

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### DISQUALIFIED PLAYERS.

Mr. Harvey moved, Mr. Sullivan seconded—"That each controlling body supply the Secretary of the Council with list of disqualified players, and Secretary advise all controlling bodies accordingly." Carried.

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### FINANCIAL.

Mr. Sullivan moved, Mr. Harvey seconded—"That the contribution to Council from controlling bodies be at the rate of 2½ per cent. of net gate proceeds of matches."

A long discussion took place, and the motion was put and lost.

It was finally decided on the motion of Mr. Brett, seconded by Mr. McKeon—"That in order to raise the sum necessary to carry out the objects and defray the cost of the administration of the Australasian Football Council that the Australian States and New Zealand represented on the Council each contribute 5 per cent. of the net gate receipts of all matches, the minimum contribution from any State or New Zealand to be £5 5s.

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### DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS.

It was agreed—"That the Finance Committee, after deducting the cost of administration (estimated at £110 per annum) shall distribute the remainder as follows:—50 per cent to New South Wales, 30 per cent. to Queensland, and 20 per cent. to New Zealand."



### KICKING IN THE RUCK.

Mr. Sullivan moved, Mr. Gill seconded—"That in the opinion of this meeting kicking in the ruck is already sufficiently provided for, as the umpire should penalise the player who kicks at the ball in such a way as to kick or likely to kick a player, as the former player is guilty of hacking." Lost—4 for, 10 against.

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### INTERSTATE MATCHES.

Moved by Mr. Long, seconded by Mr. Becker—"That the matter of interstate matches be taken up as arranged in Clause 5 of the Constitution."

The motion was withdrawn, it being regarded that it was a matter for controlling bodies.

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### PERMISSION MATCHES.

On the application of Mr. McKeon permission was given to the New Zealand team to play matches—

v. South Australia, at Adelaide, on 1st September.

v. New South Wales, at Sydney, on 16th September.

On the application of Mr. Brett permission was given to West Australians to play a match v. South Australia at Adelaide on return journey.

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### STATES PLAYING PLAYERS WITHOUT COMPLYING WITH PERMIT REGULATIONS.

A question having been asked as to whether the conditions of Permit Regulations had been complied with by States, Mr. Sullivan explained that Messrs. Chamberlain, Hutton and Plunkett had been granted permits by his League through an oversight on clearances from clubs only. It was moved by Mr. Worrall, seconded by Mr. Long, and carried—"That the Council disapproves of the action of the South Australian Football League in permitting certain players to play with its clubs contrary to the Permit Regulations governing interstate players."

### SIZE OF BALL—SCHOOL MATCHES.

It was agreed that the size of ball for school matches shall be not less than  $22\frac{1}{2}$  inches, nor more than  $22\frac{3}{4}$  inches in circumference laterally, and not less than  $28\frac{1}{4}$  inches nor more than  $28\frac{3}{4}$  inches longitudinally.

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### REPORT NEWSPAPERS—MR. BRETT.

Mr. Worrall asked re report in newspapers as to statement alleged to have been made by Mr. Brett on the occasion of visit of New South Wales Rugby team to West Australia, that he preferred the Rugby game.

Mr. Brett made an explanation, and gave a complete denial of the report that he had made such a statement on any occasion.

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### VISIT NARRANDERA, NEW SOUTH WALES.

Moved by Mr. Butler, seconded by Mr. Nash and carried —“That it be a recommendation that Queensland team accept invitation to visit Narrandera on the return journey.”

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### CHAMPIONSHIP.

On the motion of Mr. Nash, seconded by Mr. Harvey, it was agreed that the Champion State be presented with a pennant.

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### COLOURS OF COUNCIL.

It was agreed that the colours of the Council be green and gold.

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### CONFERENCE WITH NEW SOUTH WALES RUGBY LEAGUE.

The President reported that an informal conference had been held in Melbourne with representatives of New South Wales Rugby League team en route to England. The practicability of assimilation of codes had been discussed, and further discussion left over until return of team from its tour.

## ENTERTAINMENT OF NEW SOUTH WALES RUGBY TEAM.

The President reported that the Victorian Football League had on the suggestion of the President of the New South Wales Football League entertained the New South Wales Rugby team at Melbourne, while in Melbourne en route for England, and had conveyed to them best wishes for a successful tour in the Old Country.

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## MATCHES BY SOUTH AUSTRALIA AGAINST VICTORIAN FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION.

Mr. Worrall mentioned the fact that at last meeting of Council permission had been given by Council to the continuance of an agreement made by South Australian League with Victorian Football Association to play matches annually for five years, from 1906 to 1911, that since such permission had been given that such Victorian Football Association had altered the laws of the game, and did not play the Australasian game of football.

Mr. Harvey stated that the body when playing the Victorian Football Association had, and would, adhere to the laws of the Australasian game.

It was agreed that efforts should be made to resume interstate matches between Victoria and South Australia.

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## PERMISSION TO ALL PLAYERS.

Mr. Brett moved, Mr. Gill seconded, and it was carried unanimously—"That each and every player apply to be granted permission each year before being allowed to play, and that each controlling body keep a list of such players. Permit Regulations to be altered accordingly."

It was agreed that the form of application to be adopted be left in the hands of the President.



### PROJECTED AUSTRALASIAN TOUR OF BOYS.

By permission of the Council Mr. J. J. Simons, of Western Australia, addressed the members on the projected tour of boys who would play the Australasian game.

It was resolved that patronage of Council be granted to scheme, and that Mr. Simons submit scheme to President, and if same meets with approval, that such be embodied in pamphlet form and distributed amongst controlling bodies.

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### MATCHES WITH BOULDER CITY CLUB (W.A.).

Mr. Brett requested that an effort be made by controlling bodies to arrange matches with Boulder City Club next season.



### BROKEN HILL.

Mr. Butler reported that a conference had been held between representatives of Broken Hill and New South Wales League with the intention of arranging interstate matches

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### MEETING OF COUNCIL TO TRANSACT SPECIAL BUSINESS.

On the motion of Mr. McKeon, seconded by Mr. Butler, it was agreed that such a meeting be held at Melbourne in December, 1908, and that no allowance for expenses be made to visiting Delegates.

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### NEXT MEETING OF COUNCIL.

It was agreed that the next meeting of Council be held at Sydney, on the second Tuesday in November, 1910.

## NEXT CARNIVAL

It was moved by Mr. Nash, and seconded by Mr. Burn, that the next Carnival be held at Adelaide in four years' time.

Amendment moved by Mr. Worrall, and seconded by Mr. Tucker, that the Carnival be held three years hence.

The amendment was carried.

It was agreed that the matter of date be left over until next Council meeting.

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## PRESENTATION.

Mr. Nash on behalf of Delegates asked the President to accept a silver salver for presentation to Mrs. Hickey as some slight token of appreciation of his unflagging efforts in the promotion of the success of the Carnival, and his great labours generally in the cause of the game.

The President thanked the Delegates for their good wishes and accompanying gift, and stated that he would have much pleasure in accepting the latter on behalf of Mrs. Hickey.

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## THANKS—VICTORIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE.

It was agreed unanimously that a hearty vote of thanks be tendered to the Victorian Football League for the hospitality and many courtesies shown to visiting Delegates and teams.

Messrs. Copeland and Strickland responded on behalf of the Victorian Football League.

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## THANKS—PRESIDENT.

It was unanimously agreed that a hearty vote of thanks be passed to the President for the able manner he had conducted the deliberations of the meeting.

C. M. HICKEY, President.

E. L. WILSON, Secretary.

## AUSTRALASIAN FOOTBALL COUNCIL.

Minutes of meeting held at the Victorian Football League Rooms, The Block, Collins Street, Melbourne, on Friday, 18th December, 1908, at 8 p.m.

The following Delegates were present:—

New South Wales Football League.—Mr. James Sharp.

New Zealand Football League.—Messrs. E. W. Copeland and J. H. Monteath.

Queensland Football League.—Messrs. James Denham and J. A. Harper.

South Australian Football League.—Messrs. H. Aplin and S. J. Dailey.

Tasmanian Football League.—Messrs. H. A. Goding and Andrew Manzie.

Victorian Football League.—Messrs. C. M. Hickey and John Worrall.

Western Australian Football League.—Mr. W. Strickland.

Goldfields Football League.—Mr. C. Brownlow.

The President (Mr. C. M. Hickey) took the chair.

The appointments of Delegates were read.

## AMENDMENT OF CLAUSE 5 OF CONSTITUTION.

Moved by Mr. Worrall, seconded by Mr. Brownlow, and carried unanimously, that part of Clause 5 of Constitution—"The election of Honorary Life Members (not more than one at each meeting of the Council)" be amended so as to read—"The election of Honorary Life Members (not more than one may be elected for each year)."



### AMENDMENT OF CLAUSE 7 OF CONSTITUTION.

Moved by Mr. Denham, seconded by Mr. Manzie, and carried unanimously, that part of Clause 7 of Constitution now reading "Each controlling body must submit its balance-sheet to the Finance Committee" be amended so as to read—"Each controlling body must submit its financial statement, duly audited, to the Finance Committee."

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### AMENDMENT OF LAW 14 OF GAME.

Moved by Mr. Denham, seconded by Mr. Worrall—"That Law 14 of the game be amended so as to permit controlling bodies to appoint two field umpires for each match if considered desirable.

The motion was lost, the voting being 3 for and 10 against.

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### AMENDMENT OF LAW 14 OF GAME.

Moved by Mr. Copeland, seconded by Mr. Brownlow, and carried unanimously, that the following addition be made to Law 14 of the Game—"In matches where boundary umpires are appointed each shall have the same power of reporting to the controlling body any player as that conferred on the field umpire under this law and dealt with as the controlling body may think fit."

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### AMENDMENT OF PERMIT REGULATION 1.

Moved by Mr. Denham, seconded by Mr. Strickland, that Permit Regulation 1 be amended by inserting between the words "weeks" and "immediately," in the fourth line of such regulations, the words "in the case of Tasmania eight weeks."

The voting being 11 votes for, 2 against, and such majority being that prescribed by Clause 9 of the Constitution, the motion was declared carried.

# ADDITION TO PERMIT REGULATIONS.

Moved by Mr. Brownlow, seconded by Mr. Harper, and carried unanimously that the following regulation be adopted—"That each and every player apply and be granted permission each year before being allowed to play, and that each controlling body keep a list of such players."

In connection with the above regulation the following form of application was settled by the President:—

To the Secretary

(Insert name of controlling body.)

I (insert full Christian and surname)

hereby apply for permission to play with the

Football Club.

Dated this

day of

19

(Signature.)

C. M. HICKEY, President

E. L. WILSON, Secretary.

## AUSTRALIA'S PRIME MINISTER.

### HIS TRIBUTE TO FOOTBALL.

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In connection with the social side of the carnival in celebration of the jubilee of Australasian Football, the smoke concert tendered by the Victorian League to the representative teams who took part in the carnival was most successful.

The gathering was held in the Melbourne Town Hall on 28th August, 1908, and the President of the Victorian Football League (Mr. A. McCracken) presided.

The Right Honourable Alfred Deakin, Prime Minister of Australia, proposed the toast "The Australasian Game of Football." On rising he was received with ringing cheers. He said: "Mr. Chairman, gentlemen, and fellow Australians, I think that cheer is as generous and as whole-souled as you always give a beaten team, and I look upon it as extended to me as a special mark of your consideration for my want of technical knowledge and practice which would enable me to propose the toast. My days of football are past so many years that although the memories are not clouded, I have perfect recollection that the game as I played it was conducted under rules rather foreign and much more literal than those which you now enjoy. But at that time, as now, I venture to think that the spirit which animated us was of no discredit to this country and no bad training for the youths of this country. (Hear, hear.) Of course, you all know, and you will be reminded presently in detail, how much we owe to our venerable, shall I say our admired, friend on the left (Mr. H. C. A. Harrison). It is very rare indeed for anyone as young looking as he is to have such an entry on the chronicles of sport in a great country as Mr. Harrison has already achieved. (Hear, hear.) The games of football that I have played since then have been many



and various, speaking symbolically, and they have been carried on in other fields, but I have yet to find the game that carries as much pleasure, as much harmless excitement, and as much stimulus as the Australasian game of football. (Cheers.) The one qualification which perhaps led to my being selected to propose this toast is that officially at all events I am associated with that Parliament which represents the whole of Australia. (Cheers.) The time when there was a Victorian game is not far distant. I well remember it, and it is a great gain to find that displaced, and replaced by the game played wherever the sea washes the shores of Australia and all the interior between. (Loud cheers.) May I say that the spirit which actuates the true footballer is that which has been tersely expressed in a memorable poem by Newbolds, when he spoke of the true sporting spirit as that which puts the game above the prize. In that you have stated as simply and as shortly as possible the very essence of British sport, the very leading principle which has made British sport what it is to-day—a powerful factor in national development. There was a time when these competitions were looked upon by the civilised world as purely insular, a kind of special development peculiar to the Anglo-Saxon race, because it had strong sinews, an active spirit, and a love of competition. But within the last thirty or forty years a most remarkable change has been noted over the whole of Europe. In every nation there has been a rebirth of sport in consequence of their recognition of the part which it plays in a healthy national life. And to-day in particular in that gallant nation whose sport hitherto has always been found on the battlefield, our former rivals and present friends in France, in that great country the growth of sport during the last twenty years probably exceeds its growth in any other part of the world. And why? Because they have found that not merely physical training, but the discipline of sport and its effect upon character and courage were as pronounced as any educational process can be. And they have found that the true sportsman, pitting himself up at his best against an opponent under the rules of fair play, is the manliest man who walks this planet to-day. (Hear, hear.) If we can say that, and a great deal more, for the football player, I wish we could say as much for all the football spectators, for I notice that whenever an adverse criticism is fairly and reasonably passed upon any game ninety-nine times out of a hundred the fault lies, not with those

who are playing, who are putting their spirit and muscle and energy into the game, but to those who are looking on, and putting their spirit and energy into their voices instead of into their muscles. (Hear, hear.) Those who are practising their vocal chords on a football ground make a rather uninspiring accompaniment. We should be sorry to miss it altogether, but it is an orchestra that needs a good deal more tuning than it has got to-day. It wants a proper and a musical pitch. The sense of fair play that is first in the breast of every player is, I am sorry to say, not the first always in the breast of the man who is applauding merely for his own side. The task of football in the future is, I hope, not only to educate the players, but to educate the spectators (the lookers-on) to the same high sense of fair play. When that is done you will have accomplished a task the effects of which will extend far beyond the bounds of the playing fields. We all know the old and not very well authenticated statement as to where the battle of Waterloo was won. I venture to think that many of the battles of life are actually to a large extent won on the playing grounds as well as in the schools and elsewhere, and that in the discipline of life the note struck on those playing fields is often truer than many of the discords you will hear in the actual battle of life when men are not restrained always by the true principles of sport. I feel myself honoured by being entrusted with this toast, because I recognise that in this country, with its splendid endowment of sunny skies and green fields, with its ampler leisure, with all its assistances in the pursuit of sport, we are bound to remain, as we always have been, a sporting people. (Hear, hear.) I venture to believe that the element added to our national life by our sporting instincts is one not of the least honourable, but often one of the most efficacious. After all, a healthy mind rests upon a healthy body. A strong character rests often on the strict discipline. A stricter discipline than you will find on the river or in the training of a football team, or in other athletic exercises, you will rarely find in after life. You are laying the foundations for a physique, a stamina and capacity that is not only exercised in sport, but which will in the hour of need respond to the nation's call. (Hear, hear.) The Australian game is becoming an Australasian game. (Hear, hear.) It may possess some Australian characteristics certainly. If it is sought for as a typical heraldic figure I doubt whether you could find one better the world over than our own kangaroo. It is becoming an Australasian game,

as I said before, and it may yet have an even wider scope so far as its education and practice are concerned."

Mr. Harrison: "It is played in South Africa."

Mr. Deakin: "Yes, and in South Africa there have been playing fields of different sorts where the sporting spirit has made its records. The game is Australian in its origin, Australian in its principle, and, I venture to say, essentially of Australian development. It and every expression of the sporting spirit go to make that manhood which is competent for a nation's tasks. Those who have been tumbled on the football field will be prepared to tumble on the political arena, and will stand the dusting of their jackets a good deal more easily than those who have been coddled in softer surroundings. The fellow who can play an uphill game, and lose it with courage and good temper, is better fitted for the contests the world has in store for him than if he has been brought up in the precincts of a ladies' school. Healthy legislation and healthy life are based in a large measure upon physical fitness. Healthy blood, sound wind and limb shall in the last resort mean a nation's safety; its name and its existence staked, as it must be staked, upon its young men. And when the tocsin sounds the call to arms, not the last, but the first to acknowledge it will be those who have played, and played well, the Australasian game of football before they play the Australian game of nation making and nation preserving to stand by the old land." (Loud and prolonged applause.)

#### PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL RESPONDS.

Mr. C. M. Hickey, President of the Australian Football Council, responded. He said: "I have to thank our right honourable friend the Prime Minister for the noble way in which he has proposed the toast of our game. It was a happy idea on the part of the Victorian Football League when they invited the Prime Minister of the Commonwealth to propose it. We of the Australasian Football Council are the federal legislators in the game of football, and we are pleased to meet our brother federal legislators of the political world. We have in Mr. Deakin the chief of the Australians, and it is pleasing to hear our great chief propose the toast in such a magnificent manner. I trust that all young Australians who have heard the speech will be imbued with the proper sentiment, and go back to their homes prepared to do their very

best for our grand Commonwealth, not only while they are on the football field or while they are on the football councils, but later on, as Mr. Deakin has said, perhaps in the Federal Parliament. We have been celebrating the jubilee of our great game. Fifty years ago the seeds of it were planted in Victoria. They have spread until now the game is played in every State in the Commonwealth and even in New Zealand. We have gone a little further afield than our friends in the political world by including New Zealand in our fold. I may state that there are no more loyal people playing the Australasian game than the New Zealanders, whom we have with us to-day. I do not propose to make a speech. I merely wish to thank, on behalf of the Australasian Football Council, all of our federal brethren who have come here to celebrate this great jubilee. I thank the Victorian Football League for giving us this opportunity, and also Mr. Deakin, who at very great inconvenience to himself has attended to-night to propose the toast." (Cheers.)



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McCARRON, BIRD & Co.,  
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